

United States Government

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Office

memorandum

October 17, 2006

DATE:

REPLY TO

ATTN OF:

SE-32:Page

SUBJECT:

DEER AWARENESS

TO:

All ORO and Contractor Employees

On October 29, 2006, we will be returning to Eastern Standard Time. As you know, it is a time when many of us will be performing our daily commutes to work during the lowest visibility conditions of the day. In recent weeks, many of you may have observed deer grazing in the fields on the Oak Ridge Reservation (ORR) during the early morning hours.


Each year, there have been a number of accidents and near misses involving vehicles and deer. In calendar year 2005, there were 90 reported deer/vehicle accidents. The worst year was 1985 when 283 deer on the ORR were involved in vehicle collisions.

Be aware that during the winter months (especially November and December) deer are most active throughout the cool/cold winter months and least active during the summer months. Be especially cautious when approaching wooded areas near daybreak or dusk. Deer may cross the road at anytime but seem more prevalent during these periods when your vision is most affected by the decreasing ambient light. As always, use defensive driving techniques with increased awareness of the potential hazard associated with the deer.

Each January, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and the City of Oak Ridge summarize the number of deer and vehicle collisions. Below are data for the past three years:

Year	Oak Ridge Reservation	Oak Ridge City
2003	79	74
2004	83	49
2005	90	0

If you should have any questions, please contact me at 576-0891 or David Page, of my staff, at 576-1357.


Larry C. Kelly
Assistant Manager
for Environment, Safety, and Health